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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues
Expert Meeting on International Arrangements for Transfer of Technology:
Best Practices for Access to and Measures to Encourage Transfer of Technology
with a view to Capacity Building in Developing Countries,
especially in Least Developed Countries
Geneva, 27 June 2001
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

I. Provisional agenda

1 Election of officers

2 Adoption of the agenda

3 International arrangements for transfer of technology

4 Adoption of the outcome of the Meeting

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1 - Election of officers

1 It is recommended that the Expert Meeting elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2 - Adoption of the agenda

2 The provisional agenda for the Meeting is in section I above. A detailed programme will be available one week before the Meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.2/EM.9/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3 - International arrangements for transfer of technology: Best practices for access to and measures to encourage transfer of technology with a view to capacity building in developing countries, especially in least developed countries

3 The Trade and Development Board decided to convene an expert meeting on International Arrangements for Transfer of Technology: Best Practices for Access to and Measures to Encourage Transfer of Technology within the framework of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues. The Expert Meeting provides a forum for experts to exchange national experiences and identify best practices with respect to existing agreements on transfer technology.

4 The concerns of the international community with respect to enhancing the transfer of technology to developing countries, as well as their technological capabilities, are enshrined in several dozen international instruments. The technology-related provisions contained in such instruments follow different approaches, depending on the object and purpose of the agreement concerned. They all aim, however, to promote access to technologies and, in some cases, to develop local capabilities in developing countries, particular least developed countries. The main question is how to enhance the effectiveness of international arrangements for transfer of technology and capacity building through

- The effective implementation of the agreed provisions related to transfer of technology;
- Creation of capacity in least developed countries to acquire and adapt technology.

The broader challenge concerns the establishment and maintenance of effective access, on a fair commercial basis, to potent sources of technology and the setting up of mechanisms for its successful deployment within the economy.

5. To facilitate the discussions, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues paper on "International arrangements on transfer of technology: best practices for access to and measures to encourage transfer of technology with a view to capacity building in developing countries, especially in least developing countries" (TD/B/COM.2/EM.9/2). The paper is complemented by a compendium of international arrangements on transfer of technology: selected instruments (UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/Misc.5). In addition, experts are encouraged to prepare brief papers on the subject under discussion. These papers will be made available at the Meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.2/EM.9/2	International arrangements on transfer of technology: Best practices for access to and measures to encourage transfer of technology with a view to capacity-building in developing countries, especially in least developed countries. Issues note by the UNCTAD secretariat
UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/Misc.5	Compendium of international arrangements on transfer of technology: selected instruments

Item 4 - Adoption of the outcome of the Meeting

6. The Expert Meeting will adopt its outcome, which will be assessed by member States before being submitted to the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues in January 2002. The final report will be compiled under the authority of the Chairperson after the conclusion of the Meeting.